

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

To the initiated there is strong significance in the statement from New York that Klaw & Erlanger have agreed to book their popular price shows through Stair & Havlin, the opposition syndicate. It is not an announcement of a capitulation on the part of Klaw & Erlanger, probably far from it, but as the weather vane shows which way the wind blows so does this news bear a world of significance to those who have followed the theatrical happenings during the past season.

Portland theatregoers are more than interested in the story because it affects the local conditions to an extent hardly realized. Klaw & Erlanger have suddenly acknowledged the importance of the northwestern field theatrically and will

this week and success—well, the laurel wreath of victory perched on the cute little heads from the opening of the strains of "The Belle of New York" on Sunday afternoon at the initial performance. I have watched the Pollards in the various seasons since the children were first brought to the coast and the improvement has been so marked as to be almost startling. They have acquired the polish and finish that was to be expected from this constant training and drilling and are today, I venture to say, the cleverest juvenile company in the world.

Three more performances are on the bill, the last presentation of "An American Millionaire" at the Baker theatre tonight and a matinee and evening performance of "The Gaiety Girl" at the Empire theatre on Sunday.

future. Among the various attractions are "A Night in June," "Blazes of the Mine," "Caprice," "A Night on Broadway," the "Al G. Field's Minstrels," Anna Held in "Papa's Wife," the Henry W. Savage English Opera company, the Bostonians, "The Billionaire," Webber & Fields, with their original New York company, "The Silver Slipper," and several other eastern successes.

"One of the few bright spots in the New York theatrical season," declares a metropolitan critic, "is the reappearance of Ada Rehan before the footlights. She and Mr. Otis Skinner have received such a welcome as must make them feel sure of their places in the hearts of the intelligent and critical theatre goers.

"Down By the Sea," a romantic comedy drama, will be the attraction at Cordray's theatre week of February 21. As the title would indicate, the story is one of the followers of the sea. There is an excellent plot, full of human interest and abounding with dramatic situations and the company is an exceptionally talented one.

Paul Gilmore, who is announced for an early engagement at the Marquam Grand in "The Mummy and the Humming Bird," has been receiving good notices en route. He was here last season in "The Tyranny of Tears."

Hurrah for the Irish—Murray and Mack are coming in February with a remodeled edition of their last season's success, "A Night on Broadway." Their company always number 20 or 30 and gives a lively performance.

Low Dockstader is nothing if not unique. In his act he enters a flying machine, steps 20 feet above the stage, scans through a glass moving panorama of the city and comments on what the sights remind him of before he descends to do a footlight talk and sing several ditties.

The "Hello Bill" company is really down and out. Advice from Salt Lake states that the show found an untimely grave in that city and the members of the company will get back to New York or any other place—if they can.

The remarkable feature about the Baker company's performance of "Charlie's Aunt" at the Marquam Grand on Wednesday and Thursday was Howard Russell's creditable character work as the bogus aunt. He was the life of the production.

During the week the company played outside towns, Albany, Eugene and Salem, and reopen at the Baker theatre tomorrow afternoon in "Jane," labeled a pure and bright comedy.

Florence Roberts is contemplating a starring tour next season with Lewis Morrison, which will last but a few weeks and be confined entirely to Pacific coast cities. The plays will include such productions as "Yorick's Love," "The Master of Ceremonies," "Richard," "Merchant of Venice" and "Alexander the Great." Miss Roberts was recently in a repertoire covering a week at the Marquam Grand and her reappearance will be enthusiastically welcomed.

The contract has been let for a \$200,000 Orpheum theatre in Minneapolis. The fact that a similar vaudeville house has just been opened in Denver illustrates how the Orpheum circuit is branching out and it is evidently but a short time until the circuit will be represented in the northwest.

There is said to be a strong possibility that Ada Rehan may become Sir Henry Irving's leading woman next season. Irving has made Miss Rehan an offer to join him in his series, and the chances are that she will accept.

Hall Caine, novelist and dramatist, is completely broken down in health and is in such physical condition that, acting under orders of his physicians, he has started for St. Moritz, Switzerland, to try mineral bath treatments.

Charles H. Yale's "Devil's Auction," the twenty-second edition of this production, is the attraction at the Marquam Grand this afternoon and tonight.

The famous Killies band will be heard at the Marquam Grand theatre shortly. This will prove welcome news to Portland's music-loving colony, as this celebrated organization is world renowned for its excellent playing.

It is quite a disappointment that Anna Held will not be seen here this season in "Mme. Napoleon," as announced, but her bill is to be changed to "Papa's Wife." The principal reason for rescinding the dates on "Mme. Napoleon" was the closing of the Chicago theatres, following the Iroquois theatre horror.

T. Daniel Frawley has been doing a remarkable business in several of the towns in South Africa, where "Arizona" especially won great favor. The well-known actor, who played stock engagements here several times, is using a repertoire of popular American plays and will stay in the Boer country until the middle of spring.

Margaret Marshall, who is remembered in the Northwest as a prime favorite during the old stock days, is now making a big hit in Australia with the Stines-Evans company in repertoire.

The news from New Orleans concerning the break between David Warfield and the theatrical trust will be pleasant reading for the many opponents of that gigantic monopoly. In unpopularity the theatrical trust is a bedfellow with the oil combine.

Out of the silence of years W. S. Gilbert, co-author of "The Mikado," has consented to write another opera and the entire theatrical world eagerly awaits the results of his venture. No inkling even has been given as to the character of the production, and its premiere will be accompanied by more interest than has been evidenced for several seasons.

Joe Muller, manager of the Pollard Juvenile Opera company, has been in the city arranging for the appearance of the youngsters next week at the Baker theatre. He says the little folks enjoyed a big business throughout California.

Clever John Maguire, who is the original advance man from Advanceville, and who is said to have billed the battle of Waterloo in Paris seven days before it actually occurred, played a neat trick in Seattle the other day that helped out the receipts of the Jessie Shirley company from the box-office standpoint. He announced that a special box had been tendered Mme. Patti and party for that night's performance. Standing room was even at a premium, and it is needless to say that Patti did not appear.

"Sag Harbor," one of James Herne's



DAPHNE AND CONNIE POLLARD
In "A Gaiety Girl" at the Empire Theatre.

hereafter send out their best class of plays, following the eastern runs, with the original companies. This is something which has heretofore been denied Portland, except in a few isolated cases. In line with this new policy there are to be no more cheap shows at the Marquam Grand. Fifty cent attractions are to be played in 50-cent houses. The shows at the Morrison street playhouse will be the best on the road and there will be more of them.

It has been notoriously true that the first season the trust would ship with a good company some such piece as "Florodora" or "King Dodo," or some other equally admirable clever production, with a strong and consistently admirable cast and lavish scenery and next season the same show but not with the same cast, and probably the original scenery, much the worse for wear and tear. Every theatre devotee who has been doing the shows during the past several seasons knows this to be a fact and it is a policy which did not redound to the standing of the trust, by any means. And the effect on the patrons of the playhouse can best be imagined. Well, let us hope that the end of this condition is in sight, for it is high time that some sort of a change in policy was made.

The Pollard boys and girls are with us again and never before, surely, did we realize just how clever these little dears were. The Baker theatre has been packed to the doors at every performance.

formance of "The Gaiety Girl" at the Empire theatre on Sunday.

Patti did not appear at Butte, as originally intended. Instead, Manager Marcus Mayer refused to allow her to keep the engagement, explaining that the high altitude and smelter smoke had already affected the diva's voice and he feared to take the risks on the remainder of the trip. Truth to tell, Patti has about exerted herself to the utmost to make a good impression and it would not be strange if her voice gave entirely out before the trip was completed.

The forthcoming production of "Fatinista" is arousing much interest locally. The exact date has not been announced, but among the soloists will be Mrs. Rose Bloch Bauer, Mrs. Walter Reed, Millard O. Lownds, J. W. Belher, Robert Rountree and Samuel Herring. The chorus will include more than 100 voices.

Ralph Stuart opened his season at the American theatre in New York with a splendid production of his new play "By Right of Sword," and was well received by the critics. Last season Mr. Stuart gave us the play on the coast and made a distinct hit. He will come to Portland again later in the season.

A number of very strong productions are listed at local theatres in the near



OZA WALDROP
In "Jane" at the Baker Theatre.

MARQUAM GRAND THEATRE

W. T. FANGLE, Resident Manager.

Monday and Tuesday Nights, February 8-9

JULES MURRY

Presents the Clever Young American Actor,

PAUL GILMORE

In the New York and London Success,

The Mummy and The Humming Bird

By ISAAC HENDERSON.

Entire production the same as used during the long run in New York City.

PRICES—Parquette, \$1.50. Parquette Circle, \$1.00. Balcony, first 6 rows, 75c; last 6 rows, 50c. Gallery, 25c and 35c. Boxes and loges \$10.00. CARRIAGES AT 10:05 O'CLOCK. SEATS ARE NOW SELLING.



PAUL GILMORE
"THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD"

is announced for an early appearance at the Marquam Grand. This production is built along the line of



JESSIE SHIRLEY.

In "Blue Grass of Old Kentucky" and "Doris" at Cordray's Theatre.

"Shore Acres" by the same author and is a drama of the "down East coast."

No mystery ever unraveled by Sherlock Holmes exceeds the interest aroused in watching a performance of "A Celebrated Case" at the Baker theatre this week. The action of the production centers around an incident where a man is convicted by circumstantial evidence.

chiefly on testimony secured from his infant daughter, and 12 years later is proven innocent through that same daughter's effective detective work. The play is a strong one and was cleverly interpreted.

It is a pleasure to announce a return week's engagement of the Pollard Juvenile Opera company at the Baker theatre. This organization of little tots has deservedly become prime favorites in Portland and on the entire coast. Their repertoire will include the ever welcome "Belle of New York."

"Human Hearts" is one of the old-time favorite melodramas that is booked at the Marquam Grand for Monday and Tuesday nights. Popular prices will prevail.

The dramatic critic of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, in speaking of Patti's recent visit, summed up the story of the diva's last farewell tour and the condition of her voice in the following paragraph: "Taken together, the woman and the voice present a remarkable work of preservation. Such a voice in a younger woman would have been jeered at; such a woman with a younger voice is an impossibility."

Louis James and Frederick Warde, who were here early in the season, are still clinging to "Alexander the Great," and are alternating at the Mason theatre in Los Angeles this week with "Julius Caesar" and "Othello."

PRESS AGENTS' MONOLOGUES

"The Blue Grass of Old Kentucky," one of the most thrilling stories ever put into dramatic form, will be the opening bill of the return engagement of Miss Jessie Shirley, opening with a matinee Sunday at Cordray's theatre and continuing up to Thursday, when Miss Shirley will appear in Robert Drouet's comedy-drama, "Doris," originally produced by Miss Effie Ellsler. "The Blue Grass of Old Kentucky" exemplifies the wonderful ideas of the Kentuckians regarding the difference between right and wrong, especially when the wrong develops into a public scandal. In such

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PAUL GILMORE.

In "The Mummy and the Humming Bird" at the Marquam Grand Theatre.

MARQUAM GRAND THEATRE

W. T. FANGLE, Res. Mgr. Phone Main 885.

Announcement Extraordinary

WEDNESDAY EVENING
February 10, 1904
at 8:15 o'clock

Miss Lois Steers Presents

Mme. Lillian Blauvelt

SOPRANO

Prices—Entire Lower Floor, \$2.00; Balcony, first 3 rows, \$1.50; Balcony, second 3 rows, \$1.00; Balcony, last 6 rows, 75c; Gallery, 75c and 50c; Boxes and Loges, \$12.50. :: :: Carriages at 10:05 o'clock.

THE BAKER THEATRE

PORTLAND'S FASHIONABLE POPULAR-PRICED PLAY HOUSE

GEO. L. BAKER, Sole Lessee and Manager Phone Main 1907

GEO. L. BAKER PRESENTS THE

BAKER THEATRE COMPANY

Week Beginning Sunday Matinee
February 7th

IN

JANE

A SCREAMING FARCE IN THREE ACTS
By WILLIAM LESTOCQ

NEXT WEEK
Henrietta Crossman's Version of **Mistress Nell**

EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!

EMPIRE THEATRE

GEO. L. BAKER, Sole Lessee & Mgr. Phone Main 78.

TWO PERFORMANCES ONLY

Matinee Sunday Afternoon and Sunday Evening

Pollard Opera Company

In the Military Musical Comedy

A GAIETY GIRL

MATINEE PRICES—10c, 15c and 25c.
NIGHT PRICES—15c, 25c, 35c and 50c.
Seats on sale now at Empire Theatre Box Office.

CORDRAY'S THEATRE

Cordray & Russell, Mgrs. Phone, Main 882.

PORTLAND'S POPULAR FAMILY THEATRE.

Last Time Tonight the Farce Comedy "HICKEY FINN."

COMMENCING SUNDAY MATINEE Sunday, Feb. 7 TOMORROW

Return Engagement the Favorite Actress

JESSIE SHIRLEY

AND HER GREAT COMPANY OF PLAYERS.

TWO NEW PLAYS

SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY

The Powerful American Play of Southern Life

"Blue Grass of Old Kentucky"

Thursday, Friday, Saturday Matinee and Night, MISS SHIRLEY WILL Present Robert Drouet's Splendid Comedy Drama.

"DORIS"

Great cast and appropriate scenic effects for each play. Prices as usual at this theatre.